

Week 23
**SERIAL ASSIGNMENT TABLE (SAT)
FACULTY SPOOL GUIDE**

1. Introduction

This lesson familiarizes students with the purpose, means of development, and use of the serial assignment table as it supports the facilitation of ship-to-shore movement of amphibious forces.

2. References

- LCAVAT PE, student reference point (SRP), and landing diagram PE SRP
- MCWP3-31.5

3. Student Requirements

- a. Scan the practical exercise (PE_.
- b. Review the ship-to-shore self-paced text (pp. 43 to 52).

4. Issues for Consideration

- a. What purpose does the serial assignment table serve? **The SAT breaks the landing force into manageable groups for efficient movement ashore.**
- b. Which MSEs should consider creation and distribution of the serial assignment table? **All.**
- c. Which functional organization is the primary SAT “user”? **Tactical-logistical (TACLOG).**

5. What to Do

- a. Assign tactical exercise teams (TETs) (recommend same as for LCAVAT and the landing diagram) or assign as individual homework assignments.
- b. Have students review the following supporting documentation:
 - (1) Enemy situation
 - (2) BLT 1/2 concept of operations and task organization
 - (3) Commander’s guidance
 - (4) Landing means available
 - (5) Landing diagram PE SRP
 - (6) LCAVAT PE SRP.
- c. Each TET will prepare the serial assignment table for BLT 1/2 and will act as the battalion operations officer.
- d. The TETs must assign serials based on the serial allocation table. They must determine the breakdown by unit, taking into consideration both surface and potential aviation delivery of BLT 1/2 assets.

- e. Summary. The SAT lists the serial numbers in numerical sequence. It serves to identify units, equipment, and supplies; the number of personnel in the serial; the number and type of landing craft or AAV; and special instructions. In this regard, use of serial numbers provides brevity, speed, and security in communications and can be a means of preparing a checklist to ensure all elements have landed. It is imperative to understand what a serial represents.

- (1) Assigned from a block of consecutive serial numbers.
- (2) Allocated based on administrative organization.
- (3) Assigned based on organization for landing.

- a. Embarked entirely on one ship.
- b. Landed as a unit on one beach or landing zone (LZ).
- c. Landed approximately at the same time: same ship, same beach, same time!

f. Discussion

- (1) Free boats are assigned serial numbers to aid in inventory control.
- (2) More than one serial in a wave is permitted.
- (3) It is important to understand that the Navy uses the SAT in debarkation and landing of the landing force. It is a good idea, therefore, to allow maximum flexibility by assigning as many serial numbers as can be reasonably controlled. For example, if three LCU loads are required to land an artillery battery, then it would be a good idea to assign each LCU boat team its own serial number. This way, as each LCU is loaded, it will be dispatched to the beach. If all three are assigned one serial, then the Navy, in compliance with “same ship, same place, same time,” will dispatch all three together, which may result in two loaded LCUs awaiting the third LCU to load—a potential waste of time.
- (4) In order to provide maximum flexibility, the numerous small boat teams belonging to H&S Company, BLT 1/2, and SP Team A were each assigned their own serial numbers.

6. Debriefs

Provide students with the SRP . The plan can change and serials should be flexible enough to move both equipment and personnel with both surface and aviation assets as practical. Students should leave extra serial numbers for to be used for contingencies.

7. Reminders

- a. Determine the smallest common denominator of means to get serial ashore (landing craft air cushion [LCAC]; CH-46).
- b. Aviation serials can be broken into subelements (e.g., heliteams – xxx-x)
- c. Serial numbers are assigned based on the organization for landing.
- d. A serial is embarked entirely on one ship.
- e. A serial is landed as a unit on one beach or LZ.
- f. A serial is landed approximately at the same time: same ship, same beach, same time!
- g. You cannot duplicate numbers on the SAT and HWSAT.
- h. Students should begin with LCAVAT as their base document.